

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Page 1: before the first full paragraph below the title, replace the current heading which reads “TECHNICAL FIELD” with the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 1: between the first full paragraph and the second full paragraph, delete the heading “BACKGROUND ART”

Pages 1-2: paragraph bridging pages 1-2, amend as indicated below:

With respect to the pants-type diapers of this kind, since the diaper main body is kept in a shrunk state by the elastic forces of the waist elastic members and the leg-hole elastic members, it has been difficult to recognize identification information including the size ~~[[and]]~~ and/or the front or back side of the diaper main body, ~~and the like~~, when the wearer puts on the diaper. Thus, there have been known pants-type diapers which make it possible to recognize the identification information in wearing

the diaper, as disclosed in, for example, Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 10-298801 and Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 2000-266.

Pages 3-4: paragraph bridging pages 3-4, amend as indicated below:

In the nursing-care facilities and the like, in which pants-type diapers of two or more kinds are daily used, two or more pants-type diapers, which have been taken out of their packaging bags, may often be stacked on one another and stored so as to be promptly used. In the case when the pants-type diapers disclosed in the above-identified first patent document are stored in a stacked state, in order to recognize identification information including the size ~~[[and]]~~ and/or the front or back side of each of the diapers, ~~and the like~~, it requires time-consuming and complicated work, for example, taking out a specific one from the stacked pants-type diapers and then expanding the waist opening of the pants-type diaper. In the case when the pants-type diapers disclosed in the second patent document are stacked on one another and stored, since the patterns printed on the back portion thereof is hidden by other pants-type diapers stacked thereon, it also requires time-consuming and complicated work, for example, taking out a specific one from the stacked pants-type diapers and then confirming the front or back side of this pants-type diaper, in order to recognize the identification information.

Page 4: first full paragraph beginning at line 6, amend as indicated below:

The present invention has been completed so as to solve the above-described problems, and an objective of the present invention is to provide a pants-type disposable diaper which enables easy recognition of identification information including the size [[and]] and/or the front or back side of each of the diapers, ~~and the like~~, even when these diapers are placed in a stacked state, and a process for producing such a diaper.

Page 4: replace the current heading at line 15 which reads “DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION” with the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Pages 4-5: paragraph bridging pages 4-5, amend as indicated below:

In order to solve the above-described problems, the present invention provides a pants-type disposable diaper comprising a diaper main body having a front abdomen portion, a back portion, and leg hole sections which are formed on both

sides of a crotch portion between ~~these portions~~ the front abdomen portion and the back portion, and further having a waist opening which is formed by joining each of both side edges of the front abdomen portion to corresponding each one of both side edges of the back portion, wherein the diaper main body is ~~with the crotch portion being~~ provided with an absorbent main body at the crotch portion, in which waist elastic members are attached in an expanded state in a diaper width direction to ~~parts of the front abdomen portion and to parts of the back portion, both of which parts are corresponding to~~ along the waist opening, with each of the leg hole sections being provided with a leg-hole elastic member which is attached in an expanded state along the leg hole[[,]].

Page 5: first full paragraph, amend as indicated below:

~~wherein the~~ The diaper main body is provided with a display part which displays ~~identification information~~ indicia including the size of the diaper main body and/or ~~[[and]]~~ the front or back side of the diaper main body, ~~and the like~~, so as to allow the display part to ~~become recognizable~~ be viewable from a side position of each of the diaper main bodies, when two or more diaper main bodies are stacked on one another with the front abdomen portion of one diaper main body being overlapped with the back portion of another diaper main body. According to an

embodiment of the invention, in the folded disposable diaper, the leg-hole elastic members are disposed so as not to extend into an area in which the indicia is provided.

Page 6: last full paragraph beginning at line 17, amend as indicated below:

intermittently printing identification information including the size ~~[[and]]~~
and/or the front or back side of the diaper main body, ~~and the like~~, on a position which is placed on the outside of the sheet having openings in turning up of the sheet in the vicinity of the turn-up line thereof, by means of an ink-jet system.

Page 7: replace the current heading at line 11 which reads "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS" with the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 8: first full paragraph beginning at line 3, amend as indicated below:

FIG. 8 is a plan view showing a folding process of a diaper main body to create a form thereof suitable for placement of same into a packaging bag when placed into a packaging bag; FIG. 8(a) shows a state prior to the folding process; FIG. 8(b) shows a state in which both side edges have been folded; and FIG. 8(c) shows a state in which a lower edge has been folded.

Page 8: second full paragraph beginning at line 9, amend as indicated below:

FIG. 9 is a plan view showing a folding process of a diaper main body to create a form thereof suitable for placement of same into a packaging bag when placed into a packaging bag; FIG. 9(a) shows state in which both side edges have been folded; FIG. 9(b) shows a state in which a lower edge has been folded; and FIG. 9(c) shows a state in which the lower edge is further folded.

Page 8: replace the current heading at line 25 which reads “BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION” with the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Pages 9-10: paragraph bridging pages 9-10, amend as indicated below:

A pants-type disposable diaper according to the present invention is a pants-type disposable diaper comprising a diaper main body having a front abdomen portion, a back portion, and leg hole sections which are formed on both sides of a crotch portion between these portions, and further having a waist opening which is formed by joining each of both side edges of the front abdomen portion to corresponding each one of both side edges of the back portion, with the crotch portion being provided with an absorbing main body, in which waist elastic members are attached in an expanded state in a diaper width direction to parts of the front abdomen portion and to parts of the back portion, both of which parts are corresponding to the waist opening, with each of the leg hole sections being provided with a leg-hole elastic member which is attached in an expanded state along each of the leg holes, wherein the diaper main body is provided with a display part which displays identification information the size ~~[[and]]~~ and/or the front or back side of the diaper main body, ~~and the like~~, so as to allow the display part to become recognizable from a side position of each of diaper main bodies, when two or more diaper main bodies are stacked on one another, with the front abdomen portion of one diaper main body being overlapped with the back portion of another diaper main body.

Page 15: second full paragraph beginning at line 7, amend as indicated below:

As the inner sheet 4, ~~there can be used~~ a water-repellant non-woven fabric material (span-bond non-woven fabric, melt-blow non-woven fabric, SMS non-woven fabric, or the like) can be used. Preferably, ~~used is~~ a water-repellant non-woven fabric material with a METSUK (basis weight per unit area) of 10 to 25 g/m² is used. Moreover, only the inner face may be subjected to hydrophilic treatment {(coated with a surfactant, or a layer of hydrophilic fibers (rayon, cotton, or the like) is formed thereon}}, and this treatment provides better feelings when brought into contact with the skin, and improves the sweat absorbing effects.

Page 15: third full paragraph beginning at line 19, amend as indicated below:

As the outer sheet 5, ~~there can be used~~ a water-repellant non-woven fabric material (span-bond non-woven fabric, melt-blow non-woven fabric, SMS non-woven fabric, or the like) can be used. Preferably, ~~used is~~ a water-repellant non-woven fabric material with a METSUK (basis weight per unit area) of 10 to 25 g/m² is used.

Page 18: first full paragraph beginning at line 1, amend as indicated below:

The top sheet 10 may preferably be made of a liquid permeable non-woven fabric material. For example, there can be used a non-woven fabric material using hydrophilic fibers (cellulose, rayon, cotton, or the like), or a non-woven fabric material in which the surfaces of hydrophobic fibers (polypropylene, polyester, polyamide, nylon, or the like) are treated by a surfactant to be made liquid permeable. Preferably, ~~used are~~ non-woven fabric materials (point-bond non-woven fabric, air through non-woven fabric, and the like) in which one of the surfaces of hydrophobic fibers having a METSUKU (basis weight per unit area) of 10 to 25 g/m² is treated by a surfactant to be made liquid permeable, are used.

Page 18: second full paragraph beginning at line 15, amend as indicated below:

As the back sheet 11, ~~there can be used~~ a water repellent non-woven fabric material (span-bond non-woven fabric, melt-blow non-woven fabric, SMS non-woven fabric, or the like), a plastic film (which may be either gas-permeable or gas-impermeable, and may desirably be a gas-permeable plastic film as a preferred embodiment), or their composite materials, can be used. Preferably, ~~used is~~ a gas-

permeable polyethylene film having a METSUK (basis weight per unit area) of 15 to 40 g/m² is used.

Pages 18-19: paragraph bridging pages 18 and 19, amend as indicated below:

As the rising flap 15, ~~there can be used~~ a water repellent non-woven fabric material (span-bond non-woven fabric, melt-blow non-woven fabric, SMS non-woven fabric, or the like) may be used. Preferably, ~~used is~~ a water repellent non-woven fabric material with a METSUK (basis weight per unit area) of 10 to 25 g/m² is used.

Page 19: first full paragraph beginning at line 5, amend as indicated below:

As the coating sheet 12, ~~there can be used~~ a paper sheet such as tissue paper or a liquid-permeable non-woven fabric sheet can be used.

Page 19: second full paragraph beginning at line 8, amend as indicated below:

As the respective elastic members 6 to 8, 16, and 17, ~~there can be used~~ elastic expansion materials (polyurethane yarns, polyurethane films, natural rubbers, or the like), which are generally used as disposable diapers, can be used, and each of these members is attached and placed between the respective sheet materials in an extended state using an appropriate attaching means such as a hot-melt adhesive, thermal joining, or ultrasonic joining. Preferably, ~~used is~~ a rubber-type hot-melt adhesive is used.

Page 22: first full paragraph beginning at line 5, amend as indicated below:

Moreover, in the above described respective embodiments, the display part 20 is formed on the outer sheet 5 at a position corresponding to the turn-up line A of the crotch portion R; however, the present invention is not limited to this arrangement, but the display part 20 may be formed, for example, on the folded outside part of the diaper main body 2 which has been folded ~~so as to be~~ into a form suitable for being placed into a packaging bag.

Pages 22-23: paragraph bridging pages 22 and 23 beginning at line 13 on page 22, amend as indicated below:

More specifically, in order ~~to place~~ for the pants-type diaper 1 to be configured in a form suitable for being placed into a packaging bag (not shown), as shown in FIG. 8(a), both side edges 1a of the diaper main body 2 are folded inward along a pair of turn-up lines C which extend along the diaper length direction X on both sides of the absorbent main body 3 and, as shown in FIG. 8(b), the lower end of the diaper main body 2 may be folded along a turn-up line D in a manner so as to cover the folded both side edges 1a. Thus, the diaper main body 2 is folded into an approximately square shape when seen in a plan view, as shown in FIG. 8(c). With respect to the diaper main body 2 folded in this manner, a display part 20a (in the present embodiment, size "S" is shown) may be formed on the outside part which has been turned up along a turn-up line D, as shown in FIG. 10(a). In such a folded state, in place of the display part 20a, or in addition thereto, a display part may be formed on the outside part which has been turned up along a turn-up line C.

Pages 23-24: paragraph bridging pages 23 and 24 beginning at line 7 on page 23, amend as indicated below:

Moreover, in the case when the pants-type diaper 1 is intended to be placed into a packaging bag, after both side edges 1a have been folded along the two turn-up lines C, as shown in FIG. 9(a), the diaper main body 2 may be folded along a turn-up line E extending along the diaper width direction W at a position lower than the turn-

up line D, as shown in FIG. 9(b), and in this state, the diaper main body 2 may be folded into upper and lower half portions along a turn-up line F ~~shown in FIG. 9(b)~~ in a manner so as to make the positions of the lower end (turn-up line E) and the upper end (waist opening) coincident with each other; thus, as shown in FIG. 9(c), the diaper main body 2 is folded into an approximately rectangular shape when seen in a plan view, as shown in FIG. 9(c). With respect to the diaper main body 2 folded in this manner, as shown in FIG. 10(b), a display part 20b (in the present embodiment, size "L" is shown) may be formed on the outside part which has been turned up along a turn-up line F. In such a folded state, in place of the display part 20b, or in addition thereto, a display part may be formed on the outside part which has been turned up along turn-up lines C and E.

Page 1: before the last full paragraph beginning at line 10, delete the heading "INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY"

ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS

Please cancel the present abstract and replace the abstract with the cleanly typed substitute abstract submitted on the following separate page.